



PRESS RELEASE - Village of Cass City

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CASS CITY TO BEGIN STREET FORESTRY MANAGEMENT PROJECT IN MARCH 2025

The Village of Cass City is excited to announce the start of the Street Forestry Management Project in March 2025. A Forestry Management Program is a 2025 strategic planning goal for the Village. This project will revitalize the treescape in the downtown area. Currently, the trees along the downtown corridor of M-81 have become overgrown, rootbound, and pose a safety hazard to vehicular traffic.

Village Manager Debbie Powell commented, the Village established a Street Forestry Management Committee, composed of dedicated community volunteers. This committee, with input from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, has selected three tree species to replace the current trees downtown: the Eastern Redbud, Canadian Red Chokecherry, and Tatarian Maple.

Powell shared, the Village's Department of Public Works will begin removing the existing trees during the week of March 10th. The new trees will arrive in April or May for planting. The replacement trees will provide variety and a vibrant new tree canopy.

Much consideration has been given to what will happen to the excess wood from the tree removal. Village leaders have decided to offer the wood to Cass City village residents for free.





On **Friday, March 14**, the Village DPW will distribute the wood placed in the municipal parking lot located on Leech St., behind Gilligan's. Distribution will run from **8:00 AM to 2:00 PM**, with staff on site to oversee the process.

Individuals must bring proof of Cass City "Village" residency to receive wood. Acceptable documentation includes a driver's license, recent mail, or other suitable proof of an address within the village limits. Residents must load the wood themselves. Please note, some logs may be heavy and over four feet in length, and assistance may be needed to load them. The distribution will be **first-come**, **first-served**, and **no "holds"** will be allowed. Each village address is limited to receiving one pickup-truck bed worth of wood (approx. 1/3 cord).

The Village is not responsible for any injury or damage resulting from the handling, transportation, or use of the wood.

We hope that you will share in our excitement as we plant these new trees in our downtown!

If you have any questions about the project or wood distribution, please contact Debbie Powell at (989) 872-2911.